

December 16, 2010

Chair Nichols and Board Members California Air Resources Board 1001 "I" Street Sacramento, CA 95812

RE: Proposed Final Regulation to Implement Cap and Trade

Dear Chair Nichols and Members of the Air Resources Board,

On behalf of California ReLeaf, I would like to commend the Air Resources Board (ARB) on the release of the Proposed Final Regulation to Implement the California Cap-and-Trade Program. Throughout the process of implementing AB 32, California ReLeaf has publicly supported ARB, the Scoping Plan, and EAAC recommendations regarding allowance values.

We understand the ARB may not have the authority to direct potential cap and trade revenues in the Proposed Final Regulation; however, we want to state for the record, our support for EAAC recommendation #9 from the report to ARB dated January 10, 2010.

"To meet the objectives of AB 32, the EAAC recommends that the ARB devote a significant share of allowance value toward financing of public and private investments. The investments to consider include those oriented toward achieving low-cost emissions reductions (both directly and through investments in cleantech RD&D), adaptation to climate impacts, environmental remediation, improvements to disadvantaged communities, and job training."

Urban forestry and urban greening projects have many benefits. Among those benefits are climate change mitigation and adaptation, social equity, and job creation; in addition to water quality and water supply, energy conservation, air quality improvement, public health, economy, and more.

As statewide organization dedicated to urban forestry, urban greening, and bettering our communities, we strongly support the revenues from a proposed cap and trade program be directed towards investments in emission reductions, climate adaptation efforts, disadvantaged communities, and job training.

We look forward to continuing to work with ARB, other relevant agencies, and the Legislature on the implementation of AB 32. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Joe Liszewski, Executive Director

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